HF Happenings

SARL Digital Contest

The aim is to establish as many contacts as possible between radio amateurs in Southern Africa using the PSK31 / RTTY mode. The contest is open to all radio amateurs in Southern Africa (General Rules 1.b)

The contest takes place from 13:00 to 16:00 UTC on Saturday 23 February with PSK31 and RTTY on 80 metres (3 580 to 3 600 kHz); 40 metres (7 040 to 7 060 kHz) and 20 metres (14 070 to 14 099 kHz). PSK31 is preferred at the lower end of the specified frequencies and RTTY is preferred at the upper end of the specified frequencies. Please note that USB must be used at all times. Refer to (General Rule 16).

A station may be contacted twice on each band once on RTTY, once on PSK31. The exchange is a RST report plus a sequential serial number starting at 001.

Contacts with stations listed in General Rule 1.b are worth 3 points. Contacts with stations NOT listed in General Rule 1.b are worth 1 point.

The first contact with each area listed below will be used as a band multiplier. Area 1: ZS1; Area 2: ZS2; Area 3: ZS3; Area 4: ZS4; Area 5: ZS5; Area 6: ZS6; Area 7: 3DA, 7P, 7Q, 9J, C9, A2, D2, V5, Z2, ZD7, ZD9, ZS7, ZS8, FR, 3B8, 5R, FH and D6 and Area 8: Stations in the rest of the world.

The scoring is Band total = QSO points X number of call areas worked per band. The final score =sum of the band totals

Logs shall be submitted by 2 March 2014 to contest@sarl.org.za

SARL Hamnet 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest

This SSB Contest is open to all Radio Amateurs in South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Mozambique, Lesotho, Marion Island and South African Antarctica. Only contacts with these areas will count.

The contest runs from 12:00 to 14:00 UTC on Sunday 2 March 2014 and it is a phone contest in the band segments 7 063 to 7 100 kHz and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz.

Participation can be as a Single operator stationary mobile; a Single operator portable; a Multi-operator portable or a Single operator base station.

Antennas are limited to antennas with less than unity gain relative to a dipole. Stationary Mobile stations shall use antennas that rely solely on their vehicles for support and shall not exceed a height of 5 metres above ground. Portable station antennas may not be erected and installed before the day of the contest and no permanent manmade structure may be used to either house equipment or for antenna supports.

Stationary Mobile and Portable stations shall operate from the same site for the duration of the contest and all power used shall comply with the requirements for Field Stations in the general rules.

The exchange is a signal report followed by a three-figure number as follows:

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*Have **YOU** done anything today to Promote **Amateur Radio?***

February

1 and 2 - AWA CW Activity Day
2 - World Wetlands Day
8 and 9 - SARL National Field Day; SARL VHF/UHF Contest
14 Valentine's Day
10 to 15 - SARL Youth Week
15 - SARL Youth Contest
15 and 16 - ARRL International DX CW Contest
23 - SARL Digital Contest

March

1 and 2 - ARRL International DX SSB Contest
2 - SARL Hamnet 40 metre Simulated Emergency Contest
8 and 9 - RSGB Commonwealth Contest
9 - Cape Argus Cycle Tour
17 - St Patrick's Day
21 - Human Rights Day; Namibian Independence Day
22 - World Water day
23 - World Meteorological day
28 - Schools close
29 and 30 - CQ WPX SSB Contest
31 - Hindi New Year

Current Summits-on-the-Air (SOTA) activities are announced at www.sotawatch.org
And more SOTA information can be found at www.sota.org.uk

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Single operator stationary mobile (a): starting with 201 for the first contact

Single operator portable (b): Starting with 401 for the first contact

Multi-operator portable (c): Starting with 601 for the first contact

Single operator base station (d): Starting with 801 for the first contact

Non-participants start with 001 for the first contact

Scoring consists of points accumulated from all contacts, multiplied by a multiplier. Contact with a station in:

Category a, b and c in own area - 3 points

Category a, b and c in another area - 4 points

Category d or non-participant in own area - 1 point

Category d or non-participant in another area - 2 points

Areas are as defined in the following list - Area 1: ZS1; Area 2: ZS2; Area 3: ZS3; Area 4: ZS4; Area 5: ZS5; Area 6: ZS6; Area 7 (eastern group): 3DA, 7P, C9, Z2, ZS8; Area 8 (western group): A2, V5, ZS7

The multiplier consists of the number of call areas worked, multiplied by a power multiplier. The power multiplier is 2 for an output power of over 50 W PEP, and 3 for an output power of less than 50 W PEP.

Logs must be sent by 10 March to Hamnet Eastern Cape, Al Akers, ZS2U, 53 Clarence Street, Westering, Port Elizabeth, 6025 or by e-mail to contest@peham.co.za.

Results of the SARL Summer QRP Contest

Geoff, ZS6GRL, says the results of the QRP contest held on 25 January are as follows:

1st - West Rand ARC, ZS6WR

2nd - Francois Reyneke, ZS6FDX

3rd - Andre Botes, ZS2ACP

4th - Dennis Green, ZS4BS

5th - Johan van Zijl, ZS4DZ

6th - Eddie Leighton, ZS6BNE

7th - Port Elizabeth ARS, ZS2PE

8th - Leon Serretta, ZS4SF

9th - Richard Heyter, ZS6RSH

Thanks to those who submitted their logs.

African DX

7P, Lesotho. Just a reminder that Ewald, DK3ID/OE8IDK, will be active as 7P8ID from Lesotho between 11 and 16 February. Activity will be on 40 to 6 metres SSB using 100 watts. QSL via DK3ID or OE8IDK direct.

5X, Uganda. Alan, G3XAQ, will return to be active as 5X1XA from the capital city of Kampala between 25 February and 16 March. Activity will be CW only. He will also be in the RSGB Commonwealth Contest (8 and 9 March). QSL 5X1XA via G3SWH.

6W, Senegal. Operators Nigel, G3TXF and Col, MM0NDX will be active as 6W/home call from Le Calao this mid-February. Their tentative schedule is as follows:

14 to 17 February - Nigel's (6W/G3TXF) activity will be mainly on CW on the 30, 17 and 12 metre bands. He does plan to be in the ARRL DX CW Contest (15 and 16 February). QSL via ClubLog's OQRS.

16 to 22 February - Col's (6W/MM0NDX) activity will be holiday style on 160 to 10 metres using SSB only. QSL via IW7EGQ, http://iw7egq.jimdo.com/6w.

(Continued from page 2)

9J, Zambia. Members of the Italian DXpedition Team are planning to be active as 9J2T between 28 February and 17 March. Operators mentioned are Silvano, I2YSB, Vinicio, IK2CIO, Angelo, IK2CKR, Marcello, IK2DIA, Stefano, IK2HKT, Alfeo, I1HJT and Mac, JA3USA. Activity will be on all bands, 160 to 6 metres using all modes. Suggested frequencies are:
CW - 1 826, 3 530, 7 025, 10 115, 14 030, 18 068, 21 030, 24 893 and 28 030 kHz
SSB – 3 780, 7 103, 14 270, 18 155, 21 310, 24 975 and 28 420 kHz
RTTY – 14 087 kHz
6 m – 50 102/CW and 50 123/SSB
QSL via I2YSB, direct or by the Bureau. An OQRS will be available for direct QSL and LoTW at http://win.i2ysb.com/logonline/

9X, Rwanda. Nick, G3RWF, will once again be active as 9X0NH from Rwanda between 3 and 12 March. Activity will be from Kigali on most HF bands and will be mainly CW with some SSB using K3 w/100 watts and wire antennas (Inverted V at about 40 Ft.). There will be no 160 m, but he will be on 6 meters. Operations will include an entry in the RSGB Commonwealth Contest (8 and 9 March). QSL via G3RWF. Nick states, "I use LoTW and do my own QSLing (prefer ClubLog)."

C5, The Gambia. Dom, M1TKA, will be active as C5/M1KTA from a beach sea front location in The Gambia between 27 February and 10 March. Activity will be holiday style on 20, 17 and 15 metres operating QRP using CW, SSB and RTTY. He also may try 160 m. Dom states, "On the last weekend between 12:00 UTC 8 and 12:00 UTC 9 March, unless you are in a BERU country I will likely ignore you please try another time." QSL via his home call sign or the LoTW. For more details and updates, see his Blog page at http://m1kta-qrp.blogspot.co.uk

5V, Togo. Operators Phil, F5MVB and Joel, F5AOW are planning to be active as 5V7MP and 5V7BJ, respectively, from Avepozo between 23 and 31 March. Activity will be on CW and SSB. Details on bands have not been announced yet but will be forthcoming. QSL via their home call signs, direct or by the Bureau.

C5, The Gambia. Pedro, ON7WP/C5WP, announced on QRZ.com that he and Andre, ON7YK/C5YK, are or will be the only two permanent licensed radio amateurs in The Gambia for 2014 (as of now). Pedro will be active between 8 and 12 April from the village Buntu (where he does charity care - see QRZ.com), and has set up his permanent base station (Kenwood TS480, Kenwood TRC-80, Yaesu FT897, a brand new 5 band Spiderbeam and a V-beam traveling wave antenna 2x120 meter. Activity should be on 80 - 6 metres using SSB and PSK.
　　Outside these days, 7 to 15 April, Pedro will also be mobile on 21 300 kHz. He has no grid power, only solar panels and a Chinese generator. Pedro also provided the following info [edited]: "After a 14 days round trip in The Gambia and Senegal now more than two years ago, I found out I was (according to African standards) incredibly rich and wanted to do something for the locals. So I gave my guide instructions to drive off the regular road into the savannah and said the first village we would find, would give them some special sponsoring. So we ended in Buntu, where my wife sponsored a repair of a collapsing water well; we fixed a building that used to keep the grains safe from rains; we installed solar panels and donated two laptops to improve their English by watching movies on these. As a return gift, I was donated some land to build my own house, so we installed 4 small guest houses 'Kerr Pedro' to welcome future visitors-philanthropists.
　　Everybody is invited to stay over for free as long as they bring aid goods along (clothes and educational stuff, or invest in projects, buy food and groceries on their way). Last visit, I installed a big 5 Band spider beam, my friend ON5OF sponsored a 2.2 kW generator so now one of the houses is a fully operational ham radio shack available for guest operators/philanthropists. I can assist obtaining temporary licenses in The Gambia and provide local transport and guiding using a jeep we also sponsored as part of out Charity project. There is a Kenwood TRC-80 radio available on site. The 3 dollars we ask for direct QSL goes directly into the development of the village Buntu. QSL cards are sponsored by Max, ON5UR, so most of this donation can be effectively used apart for the return postage. Any more info can be found on the <SmileGambia.org> website. In April, we go back to check if the active building project for a community hall that also can be used for school

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will be finished where we will also install satellite TV for further improvement of their English. The amateur radio station could also use a low weight amplifier to improve our signal so if anybody could help on this point making us better reada-ble that would be most appreciated."

African Islands on the Air

3B9, Rodrigues Island. Just a reminder that Eric, OE4AAC, will once again be active as 3B9/OE4AAC from Rodrigues Island (AF-017) between 10 and 18 February. Activity will be holi-day style on 40 to 10 metres CW. QSL via OE4AAC.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 10 to 17 February 2014

ARRL School Club Roundup
13:00 UTC 10 February to 23:59 UTC 14 February
Mode: CW/RTTY/Digital, Phone
Bands: All, except 60, 30, 17, 12 m
Classes: Single Op (I); Club/Multi-Op (C); School Club/Group (S)
Max operating hours: 24 hours total; 6 hours out of any 24-hour period with off times of at least 30 minutes
Exchange: RS(T), class (I/C/S) and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per mode
QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW/RTTY/digital QSO
Multipliers: States and VE provinces and DXCC coun-tries and (2 x class C QSOs) and (5 x class S QSOs)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 18 March 2014
Post log summary at: http://www.b4h.net/arrlscr/
Mail logs to: School Club Roundup; c/o LIMARC, PO Box 392, Levittown, NY 11756, USA
Find rules at:
http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup

QRP Fox Hunt
02:00 - 03:30 UTC 14 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op (Fox/Hound)
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST and state, province or country and name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 15 February 2014

E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 14 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: (see rules)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 16 February 2014
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint
20:00 local 14 February to 02:00 local 15 February
Mode: PSK31
Bands: 160, 80, 40 m
Classes: OM - QRP or LP; YL - QRP or LP
Max power: LP: 50 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Name, OM or YL and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band

(Continued from page 4)

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with OM; 2 points per QSO with YL

Multipliers: Each state, province and DXCC country once only

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 28 February 2014

E-mail logs to: w4krn@his.com

Mail logs to: Karen Russo, W4KRN, 7720 Willow Pond Lane, Nokesville, VA 20181, USA

Find rules at: http://www.podxs070.com/o7o-club-sponsored-contests/valentine-sprint

Russian PSK WW Contest

21:00 UTC 14 February to 21:00 UTC 15 February

Mode: BPSK31, BPSK63, BPSK125

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op All Band

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: RU: RST and 2-letter oblast; non-RU: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country on 20, 15, 10 m; 3 points per QSO with different country same continent on 20, 15, 10 m; 5 points per QSO with different continent on 20, 15, 10 m; 2 point per QSO with same country on 160, 80, 40 m; 6 points per QSO with different country same continent on 160, 80, 40 m; 10 points per QSO with different continent on 160, 80, 40 m

Multipliers: Each country once per band; Each oblast once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 20 February 2014

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: http://ua9qcq.com/en/submit_log.php?lang=en

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.epc-ru.ru/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=562&Itemid=192

ARRL International DX CW Contest

00:00 UTC 15 February to 24:00 UTC 16 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op Single Band; Single Op Unlimited - low or high; Multi-Single - low or high; Multi-Two; Multi-Multi

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: W/VE: RST and state or province; non-W/VE: RST and power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 3 points per QSO

Multipliers: W/VE: Each DXCC country once per band; Non-W/VE: Each state, District of Columbia, VE province/territory once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 18 March 2014

E-mail logs to: DXCW@arrl.org

Mail logs to: ARRL Intl DX Contest, CW, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, USA

Find rules at: http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx

SARL Youth Day Sprint

08:00 - 10:00 UTC 15 February

Mode: SSB

Bands: 40 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RS and age

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO between operators 25 or younger; 2 points per QSO between 25 or younger operator and a 26 or older operator; 1 point per QSO between operators 26 or older

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 22 February 2014

E-mail logs to: youthsprint@sarl.org.za

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.sarl.org.za/Document_Store/CONT_20140101_SARL_Contest_Manual_2014.pdf

Feld Hell Sprint

20:00 - 22:00 UTC 15 February

Mode: Feld Hell

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: Standard: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 22 February 2014

Upload log at: https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests/sprints/bingo-sprint

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
02:00 - 04:00 UTC, Feb 17
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Band; All Band
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power
Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent
Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once
Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23 February 2014
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/autolog.php
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

Next Weeks Contests

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 19 February
AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 19 February
RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW, 20:00 - 21:30 UTC 20 February
QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 21 February
NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 UTC-03:00 UTC 21 February
CQ 160-Metre SSB Contest, 22:00 UTC 21 February to 22:00 UTC 23 February
REF SSB Contest, 06:00 UTC 22 February to 18:00 UTC 23 February
UBA DX CW Contest, 13:00 UTC 22 February to 13:00 UTC 23 February
North American RTTY QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 22 February to 05:59 UTC 23 February
High Speed Club CW Contest, 09:00 - 11:00 UTC and 15:00 - 17:00 UTC 23 February
SARL Digital Contest, 13:00 - 16:00 UTC 23 February
North Carolina QSO Party, 15:00 UTC 23 February to 00:59 UTC 24 February
CQC Winter QSO Sprint, 01:00 - 02:59 UTC 24 February

Coffee Shop

7P8DG inverted V antenna and solar panel at Malealea, Lesotho

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News and Southgate ARC News

SARL National Convention
Pretoria 11 –13 April 2014

Hosted by

Magalies Radioamateurklub

Book Now

Furrow Lane Hotel, 272 Furrow Road, Equestria, Pretoria, South Africa. Coordinates: S 25° 45.729' E 028°20.169'

Friday 11 April

13:00 Arrival and Registration

18:30 Welcoming Braai
Speaker: Brian Frazer :"*Monitoring Sun spots and solar activities through monitoring ultra low frequency wave propagation*"

Saturday 12 April

07:30 Registration

09:00 SARL AGM

19:00 Awards Dinner

Speaker:
Dr Kobus Botha ZS6KOB
"Real-time weather photos"

Plus exhibits, fashion and hairstyling shows for the ladies, food stalls, etc.
Get details at www.sarl.org.za

Speakers :

Johan Badenhorst (Voetspore) *"Kommunikasie ervarings en behoeftes op die langpad*

Dr Gary Immelman:"*Two-way Radio for dummies*"

Jacque Fernihough: *"Plan your off-site power"*